



## **CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**

### **Scope:**

This document covers the fire and life safety requirements having to do with fairs, carnivals and like events.

### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this document is to provide the festivities coordinator and the vendor with the necessary information to ensure that the tents and canopies used are in conformance with the requirements of the California Fire Code as interpreted by the Elk Grove CSD Fire Department.

### **Procedure:**

The Elk Grove Fire Department will conduct an inspection to determine compliance with these requirements. In the event fire and life safety violations are found, the responsible person will be given one opportunity for compliance. Failure to adhere to these requirements may result in closure of the respective operation. It shall be the responsibility of the promoter to insure vendors are aware of these regulations.

The Elk Grove Fire Department must be notified not less than 72 hours prior to any clearance inspection.

### **Housekeeping:**

The accumulation of combustible trash in the form of papers, boxes, etc., when stored next to open flame or hot cooking devices present a tremendous fire hazard. Hot oil can ignite other items and can cause serious and/or lethal burns. Use common sense and pay attention! Do not block your exits - always leave a clear and open path to the outside when you are working in a portable structure.

### **1. DEFINITIONS:**

- A. **Tents** – is a temporary structure, enclosure or shelter constructed of fabric or pliable material supported by any manner except by air or the contents it protects.
- B. **Canopy** – is a temporary structure, enclosure or shelter constructed of fabric or pliable materials supported by any manner except by air or the contents it protects, and is open without sidewalls or drops on 75 percent or more of the perimeter.
- C. **Open Flames** – Torches, candles, and other devices using a flame (fire) for decorative purpose.
- D. **Open Flame Cooking Device** – range style burners, fuel fired woks, gas grills, gas fueled food warmers, solid fuel fires, etc.



- E. **Flame Retardant** – is an approved chemical, chemical compound or mixture which, when applied in an approved manner (applied by a certified technician licensed by the California State Fire Marshal's Office) to any fabric or other material, will render such fabric or material incapable of supporting combustion. (For tents greater than 200 square feet).
- E. **Flame-Resistant Material** – is a material that has been modified in its chemical composition by impregnation, coating or has inherent composition that makes the material resistant to ignition and combustion when exposed to a small ignition source. (For tents 200 square feet or less).
- F. **Solid Cooking Fuel** – any solid, organic, consumable fuel such as briquettes, mesquite, hardwood, or charcoal.
- G. **Solid Fuel Cooking** – include but are not limited to non-gas barbeques, smokers including barrel style, or open campfire style cooking, of any size.

## 2. TENTS AND CANOPIES:

- A. Tents and canopies having an area in excess of 200 square feet of floor area shall have a permanently affixed label by a California State Fire Marshal licensed applicator bearing the following information:

### *2001 CFC Article 32, Section 3207*

- 1. Identification of tent or canopy, size and fabric or material
- 2. For flame-resistant materials, the necessary information to determine compliance with the document.
- 3. For flame-retardant-treated materials, the date that the tent or canopy was last treated with an approved flame retardant.
- 4. The trade name and type of flame retardant utilized in the flame-retardant treatment.
- 5. The name of the person and firm that applied the flame retardant.

-----or-----

- 1. A permanently affixed label from the Office of the State Fire Marshal stating that the material used for the tent or canopy is flame retardant and a Certificate of Flame Resistance.
- B. Tents and canopies where cooking is performed shall be separated from other tents and canopies by a minimum of 10 feet.



### **3. COMPRESSED GAS CYLINDERS**

- A. Liquefied petroleum gases (such as propane and butane) shall not exceed twenty (20) gallons in amount per booth. Cylinders shall be located outside of the booth at least five (5) feet away and at least 10 feet away from any open flame except for barbeques.
- B. Acetylene cylinders shall not exceed sixty (60) cubic feet in volume and shall be limited to one cylinder per booth.
- C. Oxygen cylinders shall not exceed eighty (80) cubic feet in volume and shall be limited to one cylinder per booth.
- D. No more than one cylinder of each compressed gas used shall be in any one booth. Cylinders are not to be used in series.
- E. All cylinders shall be stored in an upright position and secured to prevent accidental tip-over, for example a small crate per 5 gallon cylinder or chaining larger cylinders to a secure and stable source is acceptable.
- F. Cylinders not in use shall be capped.
- G. All compressed gas cylinders in use shall be equipped with individual regulators with approved hose and appliances.
- H. All L.P. gas cylinders shall be within current hydrostatic test date, (no more than 12 years from date of manufacture, or no more than five (5) years from last hydrostatic test).

### **4. OPEN FLAMES: TORCH, CANDLES, ETC.**

- A. Persons having open flames of any kind shall do so in areas not accessible to general public.
- B. Displays having open flame devices must have an approved fire extinguisher.
  - 1. The fire extinguisher must be U.L. listed with a rating of not less than 2A:10B:C and a minimum of five (5) pounds.
  - 2. All fire extinguishers shall bear a current California State Fire Marshal service tag and be fully charged.



3. Fire extinguisher shall be placed in a visible location where it is easily accessible and placed near the exit of the structure.

## **5. HEATING AND COOKING APPLIANCES/FOOD VENDORS**

- A. No combustible or flammable liquids shall be heated directly on any heater or cooking appliance. Substance such as candle wax shall be melted in containers set in boiling water (double boiler) to keep the wax from reaching its ignition temperature.
  1. Any booth using combustible or flammable liquids must have a U.L. listed fire extinguisher with a rating of not less than 2A:20B:C, be fully charged, bearing the California State Fire Marshal label and be placed in an accessible location near the exit of the structure.
- B. All deep fryers and other cooking appliances (i.e. pots, pans, woks, etc.) with a capacity of one (1) gallon (4 quarts) of cooking oil or more shall be kept outside of tents, trailers, canopies or the like and placed a minimum of ten (10) feet away, or shall be located under a commercial kitchen hood provided with a U.L. 300 compliant fire extinguishing system. A K-rated fire extinguisher shall be provided for all cooking applications utilizing grease or producing grease-laden vapors. This requirement has been discussed with the Environmental Health Division.
- C. All commercial cooking equipment located inside of a trailer or fully enclosed constructed booth made of permanent materials shall be provided with an approved automatic fire extinguishing system which is U.L. 300 compliant, bearing an approved service label as certified by the Office of the State Fire Marshal.
- D. Stands (tents, trailers or similar structures) shall have a minimum of ten (10) feet of clearance from the next closest structure and shall not be located within ten (10) feet of amusement rides. Where tents or canopies are closer than ten (10) feet, their area square footage shall be combined. Refer to diagram on page 7.
- E. All barbeque cooking shall be conducted only outside of structures. Gas-fired barbeque shall be placed a minimum of five (5) feet from any structure, overhang or fabric. Solid fuel cooking shall be a minimum of ten (10) feet from any structure, overhand or fabric.
- F. Solid fuel cooking shall be isolated from contact with the public by either physical guards, fencing, or enclosure.
- G. No open flame cooking devices shall be allowed inside combustible portable structures. (Example: plywood, tents, etc.)  
Exception: tents and canopies complying with section 2 above.



## FIRE DEPARTMENT

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- H. Open flame cooking devices allowed inside screen sided structures. Screens used in these structures shall be flame retardant or be of metal construction.
- I. See item 11 below for exiting requirements. Each tent, canopy, trailer, or the like shall have at least one clear exit.
- J. Every booth which prepares or serves heated food shall be equipped with a 2A:10B:C fire extinguisher bearing a current California State Fire Marshal service tag, and be fully charged, and placed in an accessible location near the exit of the structure. Or a new fire extinguisher, minimum five (5) pounds, with the sales receipt taped to the side of it for visual inspection.
- K. Propane fired devices must be approved by Underwriters Laboratories (UL) or by the American Gas Association (AGA). These labels must be accessible for inspection.

## 6. FLAMMABLE DECORATIONS/COVERINGS

- A. No person shall use or display any flammable decorations such as hay, straw, (other dry vegetation), large dimensions of fabric, for example curtains, tablecloths and other decorations or visual effects, or any other hazard, without first treating said material with a State Fire Marshal approved substance.
- B. All treated material shall have proof of treatment affixed to it in accordance with the State Fire Marshal's regulations.
- C. A 3" x 3" sample of the decorative fabric shall be submitted to the Elk Grove CSD Fire Department, at least 72 hours in advanced, and accompanied by a Certificate of Flame Resistance.

## 7. ELECTRICAL - Electrical equipment and installations shall comply with the Electrical Code.

- A. Unless otherwise approved by the Elk Grove Fire Department, the maximum wattage light bulb allowed is the size recommended by the manufacturer for the appliance used.
- B. Fuel powered equipment (generators) shall be a minimum of twenty-five (25) feet from any booth and or other surrounding booths.
- C. Fuel powered sources shall be isolated from contact with the public by either physical guards, fencing or enclosure.



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- D. Some temporary lighting may require an electrical permit. Contact your local Building Department for requirements.
- E. Before an extension cord can be used with a portable appliance all the following must be met:
  - 1. Extension cords shall be plugged directly into an approved receptacle.
  - 2. Extension cords shall serve only one appliances or fixture.
  - 3. Extension cords shall not exceed 75 feet in length and no smaller than 16 gauge wire.
  - 4. The current capacity of the cord shall not be less than the rated capacity of the appliance or fixture.
  - 5. The extension cord is maintained in good repair, without splices, deterioration or damage.
  - 6. The extension cord shall be of the grounded type when servicing grounded appliances or fixtures.
  - 7. If an extension cord has to go across a traffic area, then an approved traffic pad shall be used. (All extension cords shall be secured to prevent a tripping hazard).
  - 8. Extension cords shall not be connected in series.
- 8. **INTERNAL COMBUSTION POWER SOURCES (includes motor vehicles, generators and similar equipment)**
  - A. Fuel tanks shall be of adequate capacity to permit uninterrupted operation during normal operating hours. Refueling shall be conducted only when the ride is not in use.
  - B. Internal combustion power sources shall be isolated from contact with the public by either physical guards, fencing or enclosure.
  - C. A minimum of one fire extinguisher with a rating of not less than 2A:10B:C of not less than five (5) pounds shall be provided in an accessible location near the exit, be fully charged and bear the California State Fire Marshal seal.



## **9. SEATING for places of assembly (over 50 persons)**

- A. A permit is required to operate places of assembly, operate a fairs and carnivals, to use liquid – or – gas fueled vehicles or equipment for competition or display inside an assembly occupancy, or use candles or other open-flame devices, in assembly areas.
- B. Where chairs and/or tables are used, the arrangement shall be such to provide aisles not less than 36” where obstructions are placed on one side and 44” where obstructions are placed on both sides.
- C. With standard seating, the spacing of chairs shall provide a space of not less than 12” from the back of one chair to the front of the most forward projection of the chair immediately behind. The rows of chairs shall be spaced not less than 33” back to back.
- D. There shall be no more than 14 seats in any row of seats.
- E. All loose seats, folding chairs or similar seating facilities that are not fixed to the floor shall be bonded together in groups of not less than three. EXCEPTION: When not more than 300 such seats, chairs or facilities are provided, bonding thereof may be deleted. (U.F.C. 2501.10.2)

## **10. PARKING**

- A. All roadways shall remain clear and unobstructed for emergency equipment at all times.
- B. Vehicles shall be parked in designated areas only.
- C. All fire lanes to be identified in a manner acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.
- D. There shall be no parking within 15’ on either side of a fire hydrant.

## **11. MEANS OF EGRESS**

- A. Tents or canopies with sides shall have proper exiting in place. Each tent shall have no less than one free and clear exit door or clear opening. Number of exits are based on the size of the tent, number of walls (sides) and occupant load. If two or more exits are required, illuminated exits signs, emergency lighting for assemblies over 100 people, maximum occupant load signs and no smoking signs shall be installed and posted throughout. Refer to item number 9 for seating requirements.

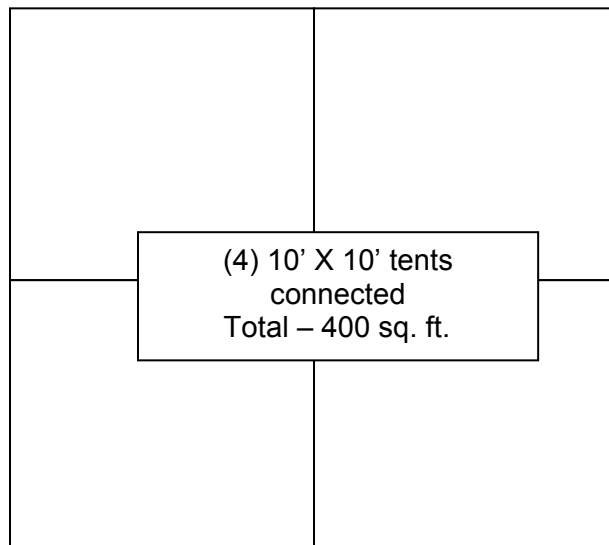
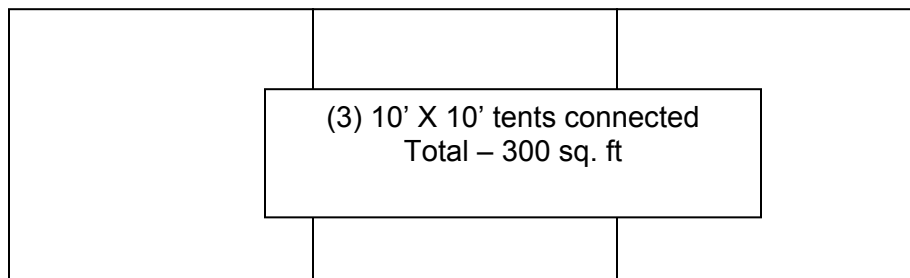
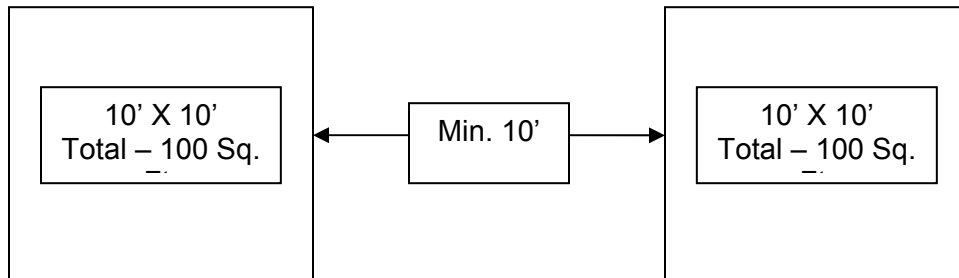


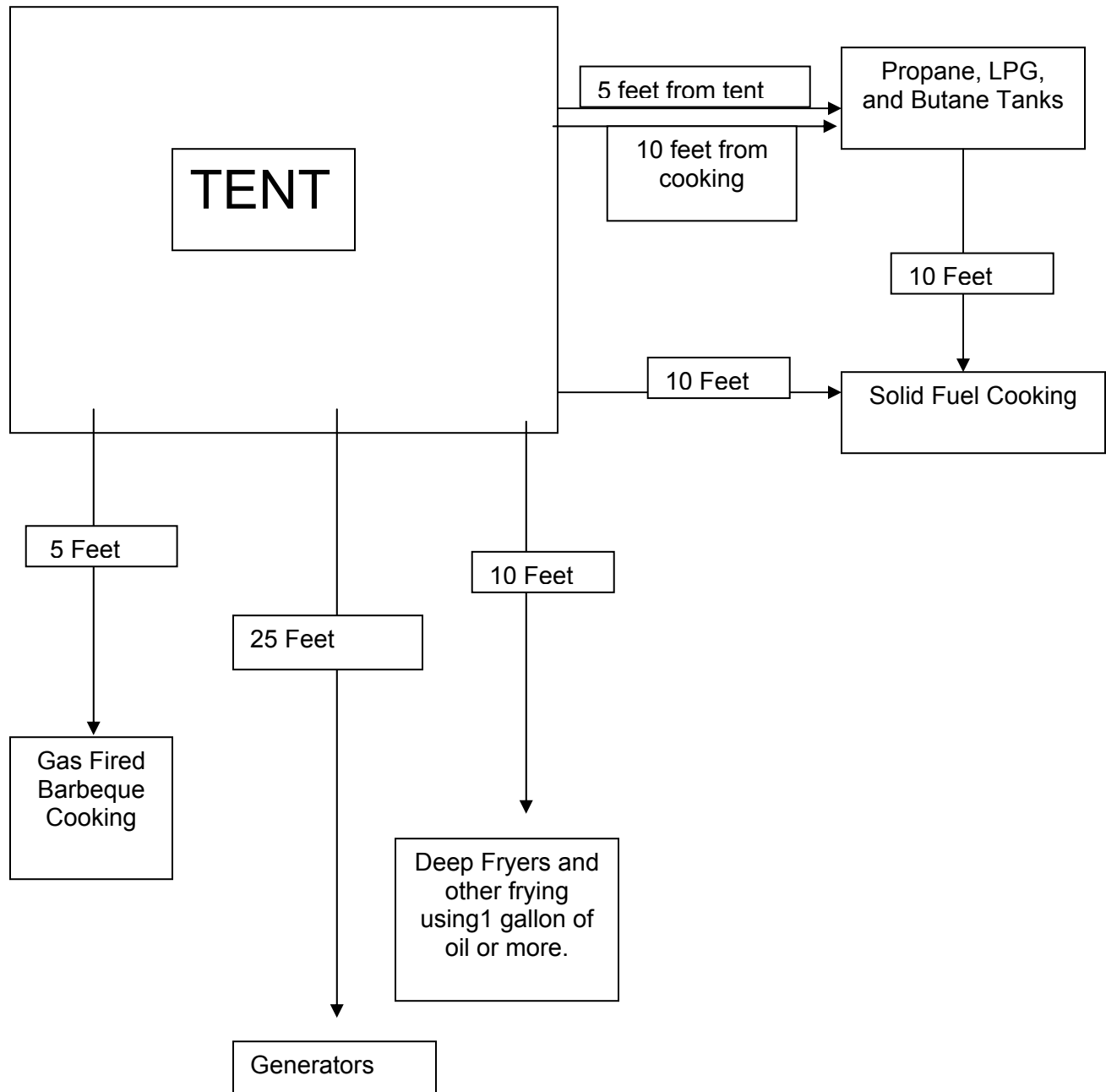
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- B. Exits shall be spaced at approximately equal intervals around the perimeter of the temporary structure, tent or canopy and shall be located such that all points are 100 feet or less from an exit.
- C. Openings from tents shall remain open unless otherwise approved by the Fire Marshal.
- D. Aisles in assembly occupancies with seats, tables, counters, furnishings, displays, and similar fixtures or equipment are placed on one side shall be a minimum of 36 inches and a minimum of 44 inches with fixtures on both sides.







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### Food Vender Requirements Partial Checklist

- ☐ Fire extinguisher located at exit and readily accessible.  
2A-10BC, 5 pound for all cooking except deep fat frying  
K-rated fire extinguisher for all deep fat frying
- ☐ Adequate exiting and escape pathways
- ☐ Fire retardant and / or flame resistant proof of requirements for tents, canopies, fabric, decorations, etc.
- ☐ Physical guards, fencing or enclosure around generators and solid fuel cooking.
- ☐ Cylinders stored in an upright position and secured to prevent accidental tipping.
- ☐ Good housekeeping
- ☐ Minimize tripping hazards
- ☐ Minimum distance requirements to adjacent tents and structures, cooking appliances, open flames, generators, etc.
- ☐ Electrical permit for temporary lighting
- ☐ Seating requirements when required
- ☐ No-smoking signs when required